

Professional Development in Folklore:
A Resource Guide for
Graduate Students and New Professionals

Presented in conjunction with
The Professional Development Sessions at the
American Folklore Society 2003 Annual Meeting
Albuquerque, New Mexico, October 9-10, 2003

Compiled by Laura R. Marcus, Program Associate
The Fund for Folk Culture

In collaboration with the American Folklore Society

Supported by the National Endowment for the Arts

Copyright The American Folklore Society, 2003

Professional Development in Folklore: A Resource Guide for Graduate Students and New Professionals

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface	3
Graduate Programs in Folklore in the US and Canada	4
National Folklore Organizations	5
Resources for Finding Funding and Employment Opportunities	9
Academic Folklore	12
Funding Sources for Scholarly Research	12
Additional Resources for Identifying Sources of Support For Scholarship	20
Career Resources	21
Scholarly Organizations Serving Allied Fields	21
Public and Applied Folklore	23
Funding Resources	25
Career Resources	30
Additional Service Organizations	31
A Word about Folklorists Working in Alternative or Applied Professional Settings	33
Acronym Cheat Sheet	35

PREFACE

The American Folklore Society and the Fund for Folk Culture, with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, present **A Resource Guide for Graduate Students and New Professionals**, in conjunction with a series of Professional Development Sessions held at the 2003 American Folklore Society Meetings in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

This guide is geared towards graduate students and to professionals who are at the beginning stages of their careers as professional folklorists. We hope that folklorists interested in pursuing academic, public/applied, or independent work will use this guide to locate educational, funding, and employment opportunities, and to familiarize themselves with the national, regional and local resources serving the field of folklore.

We have organized the Resource Guide into broad and sometimes overlapping categories.

Graduate Programs provides a listing of the Ph.D. and M.A. folklore programs in the United States and Canada, with information about accessing their websites.

The **National Folklore and Folklife Resources** section provides a basic lay of the land of the major folklore and folklife organizations in the United States and indicates how they can be useful to you.

Resources for Finding Funding and Employment Opportunities is divided into academic and public and applied/independent sections, however these sections are by no means mutually exclusive, as professional opportunities often overlap. Listed here you will find a variety of resources for seeking funding and employment, as well as scholarly and service organizations serving allied fields.

We have provided an **Acronym Cheat Sheet** as an aid in deciphering some of the codes you will encounter in your professional life.

It has been said that students emerging from folklore degree programs must be willing to create their own jobs. We hope that the range of resources presented here will lead you to new possibilities, and that they will serve as a springboard for finding your own way in the field.

This manual is a work in progress. We are certain that as you read through this manual—and as you pursue further work in the field—you will discover that we have left out important organizations and other helpful resources. Please tell us about those organizations and resources, and we will be happy to add them to the manual.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN FOLKLORE IN THE US AND CANADA

There are graduate programs in folklore at universities throughout the United States and Canada. These programs are located within a variety of disciplinary contexts. Depending upon its faculty and its institutional setting, each program varies in its regional or geographical focus, as well as its professional emphasis. Some programs may have special projects, internships, or teaching assistantships that give students access to professional experience while they are still in school. Many programs have their own archives relating to the local folklore of a particular region, as well as collections of regional, national and international materials.

The American Folklore Society (www.afsnet.org/aboutfolklore/wherestudyFL.cfm) has the following listing of Ph.D. and M.A. programs, as well as concentrations in folklore, with live links to each program. Exploring these websites is a great way to acquaint yourself with particular programs, their faculty, course offerings, specialties and more, either as a prospective student or as you prepare to enter the job market.

PhD Programs in Folklore

Indiana University
 Memorial University of Newfoundland
 The Ohio State University
 University of California at Los Angeles
 University of Louisiana at Lafayette
 University of Oregon
 University of Pennsylvania
 University of Texas at Austin
 University of Wisconsin

MA Programs/Concentrations in Folklore

George Mason University
 Indiana University
 Memorial University of Newfoundland
 The Ohio State University
 University of California at Berkeley
 University of California at Los Angeles
 University of Louisiana at Lafayette
 University of Missouri
 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
 University of Oregon
 University of Pennsylvania
 University of Texas at Austin
 Utah State University
 Western Kentucky University

NATIONAL FOLKLORE ORGANIZATIONS

Below is a descriptive list of the major folklore and folklife organizations in the United States. Their websites and listservs provide access to a broad array of resources, including funding, employment and research opportunities, museums, libraries and archives, academic programs, educational materials, performing arts, and links to other important national, regional and local folklore/folklife organizations. Look for the areas of interest to you: career or funding opportunities, regional organizations or archives, internships, and so on, to tailor these sites to suit your particular needs.

American Folklife Center

Library of Congress

Room LJG-49
Thomas Jefferson Building
101 Independence Ave. SE
Washington, D.C. 20540-4610
202/707-5510 (Folklore Reading Room)
www.loc.gov/folklife/afc.html

Congress created the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress in 1976 "to preserve and present American folklife." The Center incorporates the Archive of Folk Culture, and sponsors many special projects and events that document and present the traditional arts and folklife of the United States and beyond. The AFC website provides updated information about the Center's activities, online presentations of multi-format ethnographic collections, and other resources to facilitate folklife research. Its *Index to Site Contents* offers a comprehensive guide to the AFC's resources. See especially *Internships and Awards* to learn about the *Volunteer Internship Program*, the *Junior Fellows Program*, *The Parsons Fund Award* (for on-site research in the Library's ethnographic collections), the *Blanton Owen Award* (for ethnographic field research in the U.S.) and the *Field School for Cultural Documentation*.

American Folklore Society

Mershon Center, Ohio State University
1501 Neil Avenue
Columbus, OH 43201-2602
614/292-3375
614/292-2407 fax
www.afsnet.org

Founded in 1888, the American Folklore Society is the preeminent folklore professional organization, whose more than 2,200 members and subscribers are scholars, teachers, and libraries at colleges and universities; professionals in arts and cultural

organizations; and community members involved in folklore work in the United States and abroad. The AFS website is an invaluable source of comprehensive, up-to-date information pertaining to all aspects of the field. In addition to offering news about the Society, its publications, its annual meeting, and general information about folklore, it provides listings of funding, educational, and career opportunities in folklore (See *Opportunities in Folklore*), links to other related national, regional, and local organizations, and many other folklore/folklife resources.

Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage Smithsonian Institution

750 9th Street, NW, Suite 4100
Washington, D.C. 20560-0953
202/275-1150
202/275-1119 (fax)
www.folklife.si.edu

The Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage promotes the understanding and continuity of contemporary grassroots cultures in the United States and abroad. It produces the Smithsonian Folklife Festival, Smithsonian Folkways Recordings, exhibitions, documentary films and videos, symposia, and educational materials. The Center conducts research, maintains archives, and provides educational and research opportunities. The Center's website includes listings of fellowships, internships, research, employment and volunteer opportunities at the Smithsonian (see *Jobs & Research Opportunities*), as well as information about the annual Folklife Festival, Folkways Recordings, exhibits, publications and special initiatives. The Center's website also includes *Web Links to Additional Resources on Folklife and Traditional Culture*, which provides an extensive list of archives, databases, academic programs, organizations, educational resources, and sources of information about music and musicians throughout the United States.

The Fund for Folk Culture

P.O. Box 1566
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-1566
(505) 984-2534
(505) 984-8619, fax
www.folkculture.org

The Fund for Folk Culture is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the dynamic practice and conservation of folk and traditional arts and culture throughout the United States. In partnership with donors and colleagues, the FFC supports the work of folk and traditional artists and strengthens local, regional and national organizations in its field. The FFC accomplishes this work through the combined services of grantmaking,

convening, and research and publications. In addition to providing information about the Fund's grantmaking, convening and research and publication activities, the FFC website provides links to regional, federal, private and national folklife organizations, as well as other related arts service organizations.

Independent Folklorists Listserv

The Independent Folklorists Listserv is open to members of the American Folklore Society, and is intended to provide a means of communication among professional folklorists who are self-employed contractors. The concerns and purposes of the independent folklorist list include, but are not limited to: providing mutual support; the education of institutions about what independents need in terms of respect, timelines, fees and compensation for time and materials, etc.; how to get funding for projects; how to stay on the "radar screens" of state, national, and other organizations; how to deal with hiring agencies; how to help or mentor one another and graduate students; business skills training; and ethical standards. The best way to access this listserv is to go to yahoogroups.com and search for Ind_Folk.

National Council for the Traditional Arts

1320 Fenwick Lane, Suite 200
Silver Spring, MD 20910
301/565-0654
301/565-0472 (fax)
www.ncta.net

The National Council for the Traditional Arts (NCTA) is a private, not-for-profit corporation dedicated to the preservation and documentation of traditional arts in the United States. Founded in 1933, NCTA is the nation's oldest presenting organization that deals with folk, ethnic and tribal arts. NCTA stresses quality and authenticity in its presentation of traditional artists to the public through critically acclaimed festivals, national and international tours, concerts, recordings, public radio, television programs and films. NCTA's website has live links to a comprehensive listing of traditional performing arts organizations and events and to TAPNET, the Traditional Arts Programs Net (see below), which offers a wealth of information about traditional arts programs nationwide.

National Network for Folk Arts in Education (formerly the Task Force for Folk Arts in Education)

CARTS: Cultural Arts Resources for Teachers and Students

City Lore: The New York Center for Urban Folk Culture
72 East First Street #1

New York, NY 10003
 212-529-195
carts@citylore.org (e-mail)
www.carts.org

CARTS is a project of City Lore, a cultural organization whose mission is to document, preserve and present the living cultural heritage of New York and other cities. CARTS.org is of special interest to those working in the area of arts and education. The website is a compilation of the best practices and resources that incorporate the traditional arts into educational curricula. The site includes updated information about teacher institutes, a link to the CARTS Culture Catalog, which makes available multimedia resources in folklore, history, culture, and the arts for integration across the disciplines. The site also features online residencies with guest traditional artists.

Publore

Publore, the public folklorists' listserv, has daily postings from folklorists working all over the United States, in a variety of professional contexts. The listserv is a good location to find postings for employment and funding opportunities, and to learn about issues of concern to all folklorists, not just public folklorists. It is also a good site for posting queries about specific topics and getting feedback from knowledgeable colleagues. The best way to access Publore is to visit the archive URL: mailgate1.nau.edu/archives/publore.html and then utilize the "Join or leave the list" option.

Traditional Arts Programs NET (TAPNet)

www.afsnet.org/tapnet

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the National Council for the Traditional Arts (NCTA) co-sponsor this subsection of the American Folklore Society web site, which is a treasure trove of information on traditional arts organizations and programs nationwide. On TAPNET, you can find links to information about *Federal and National Folk and Traditional Arts Programs*; *State and Regional Folk Arts Programs*; *Local Folk and Traditional Arts Agencies* (or programs in local agencies); the *American Folklore Society Public Programs Section*; *Folk Arts in Education*; a *Portal to PUBLORE*, the Public Sector Folklore Listserv (see above); *Documentation of Traditional Arts*; *Museums and Archive*; *Personal Websites and information about Independent Folklorists*; and other sites of related interest. TAPNET also provides access to the NEA's programs that serve folk and traditional arts, including: *Guidelines and Applications*; *Folk and Traditional Arts*; the *National Heritage Fellows program*; and *Cultural Funding--Federal Opportunities*.

RESOURCES FOR FINDING FUNDING AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Folklorists find themselves working in a variety of professional contexts, depending upon their specialties and avocations. While the fields of folklore and folklife might seem relatively narrow or specialized in focus, in fact they actually offer a wide range of research and professional opportunities. In pursuing your own research or career path in folklore and folklife, it is best to begin your search with an open mind and a creative spirit. In addition to exploring the “usual places,” be open to following a particular research or professional interest that may lead you in unexpected directions. Listings for funding and employment in folklore as an autonomous discipline are few in number, although they are out there. Your particular linguistic abilities, cultural expertise, professional experience or research area will be an advantage in seeking funding or employment. Use the resources offered here to locate opportunities that relate to your own expertise and training.

As a scholarly field, folklore is by nature interdisciplinary. While there are a number of degree programs in folklore and folklife throughout the United States that hire folklorists to their faculty (see **Graduate Programs** in this Resource Guide), the majority of academic folklorists find themselves developing and teaching folklore courses (among others) in humanities and social service departments such as American studies, anthropology, comparative literature, cultural geography, education, English, ethnic studies, international or multicultural studies, music, oral history, sociology and more. Folklorists specializing in particular cultural, research and/or linguistic areas may find positions in academic programs devoted to a particular area, such as Latino or Chicano Studies, Native American, African American Studies, and so on. Some folklorists have found work in foreign language departments.

Similarly, in the public/applied and independent domains of folklore and folklife, folklorists have found work in a diverse range of professional fields. Typically, public folklorists work in arts agencies, historical societies or museums. However, a growing number of folklorists have found a niche in such alternative professional fields as archiving, cultural tourism, education, health care, the media, publishing, recreational settings, software development, social services, and more. Here again, having a background in a particular field of cultural or professional expertise or foreign language skills can help you find work in an agency or geographical location that is desirable to you.

The resources listed above in the **National Folklore and Folklife Organizations** section are the best place to begin acquainting yourself with the field and what it has to offer. Below, you will find additional, more specialized information about seeking funding and employment in your particular areas of interest.

In addition to the listings below, you should also be aware of the resources available to you in your own neighborhood. If you are enrolled in a degree program, are an alumna, or are teaching at a college or university, you may want to check your home institution for an office that specializes in directing students and faculty to funding opportunities. Most such offices are computer-based, but have staff available to help you use their resources. Beyond university and college-based offices, there are also foundation libraries scattered across the country, and there may be one near you. Public libraries and private foundations are the most likely hosts for such foundation libraries.

As you explore funding opportunities in both public/applied and academic folklore, it is best to visit funders' websites to acquaint yourself with their program interests, criteria, and application procedures. Perhaps even more than its eligibility criteria and program goals, the list of past grant recipients reveals a funding organization's genuine priorities. Finding the proper match between your project and the priorities of a potential funding source is absolutely critical to successful fund-raising. Before applying for funding, it is an excellent idea to contact a program officer at a funding agency to discuss your project and to obtain more information about the organization you are approaching. Funding agencies vary in their preferred modes of contact, whether by e-mail, telephone, or mail. Their websites will contain this information, as well as information about their timelines, eligibility criteria, and the size of the grants they offer.

Traditionally, academic and public/applied and independent folklorists have worked in separate realms, developing different sets of skills and diverse ways of working in their communities. However, in recent years there have been both formal and informal inroads made towards unifying the field, and it is possible to maintain an interest and gain experience in both areas. There are even some professional positions that draw upon public and academic folklore, hosted either by an arts service organization or an academic institution, so there is potential for combining public and academic work in one career.

Note: This section of the Resource Guide has been separated into Academic and Public/Applied and Independent listings as a way of organizing information. Yet, there are definitely overlapping interests, needs and concerns among folklorists working in all sectors of the field. Please read through both the Academic and Public/Applied and Independent sections, because each organization is listed only once, although it may have relevance for folklorists with diverse professional interests. Also, there is overlap between the Funding, Career and Organizational components of the lists below. For example, you very well might find job postings through a funding organization, or funding opportunities in one of the agencies listed in the career or organizational listings. Looking through the whole list will give you a broader, more holistic understanding of the field and the array of possibilities it offers. The listings offered here are for some of the preeminent organizations offering a variety of resources for folklore and folklife professional, but the list is by no means exhaustive. Many of the

websites listed below contain links to other organizations of related interest, so be sure to explore further as you visit these sites.

ACADEMIC FOLKLORE

Funding Resources for Scholarly Research

Funding organizations may have opportunities for both individual and/or organizational research, as well as support for dissertation research or write-up and postdoctoral fellowships. Also included are opportunities for new professionals seeking funding for their research. Before applying for funding, it is a good idea to contact a program officer at a funding agency to discuss your project idea and to obtain more information about the organization you are approaching. Funding agencies vary in their preferred modes of contact, whether it be e-mail, telephone, or mail. Their websites will contain this information, as well as information about their timelines, eligibility criteria, and the stipends they have to offer.

American Academy of Arts & Sciences

136 Irving St.
Cambridge, MA 02138
617/576-5000
617/576-5050 (fax)
www.amacad.org

Founded in 1780, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences is an international learned society composed of scientists, scholars, artists, business people, and public leaders. Its *Visiting Scholars Program (Post-Doctoral and Junior Faculty Fellowships)* at the American Academy is an interdisciplinary research institute housed at the headquarters of the Academy in Cambridge, Massachusetts. This program's purpose is to stimulate and support research by promising scholars and practitioners in the early stages of their careers and to foster new ties between an emerging generation of scholars and Academy members with shared interests.

American Association of University Women

2201 N. Dodge St.
Iowa City, IA 52243-4030
319/337-1716
www.aauw.org

The American Association of University Women promotes education and equity for all women and girls, lifelong education and positive societal change. Their extensive website includes an online *Career Center*, with updated job listings, as well as *Community Programs* and *Take Action* sections, and *Links of Interest*. The AAUW Educational Foundation supports aspiring scholars around the globe, teachers and

activists in local communities, women at critical stages of their careers, and those pursuing professions where women are underrepresented. Under the *Fellowships/Grants/Awards* section, you will find information about the AAUW's *American Fellowships* (for doctoral and post-doctoral research), *Career Development Grants*, *Community Action Grants*, *International Fellowships*, *University Scholar-in-Residence*.

American Council of Learned Societies

633 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10017-6795
212/697-1505
212/949-8058 (fax)
www.acls.org

The American Council of Learned Societies is a private non-profit federation of sixty-seven national scholarly organizations, including the American Folklore Society. Its mission is the advancement of humanistic studies in all fields of learning in the humanities and the social sciences and the maintenance and strengthening of relations among the national societies devoted to such studies. The ACLS website contains information about its *Fellowships and Grants Programs*, which include research and professional development opportunities for scholars at various stages of their work, in a variety of cultural and disciplinary areas. Under the website's *Constituent Learned Societies*, you will find live links to a broad range of scholarly societies. The site's *Online Scholarly Resources* also has connections to *Selected Links to Funding, Research and Institute Resources*, which include *Humanities and Social Sciences Resources*, *Fellowships Programs*; *Humanities Centers*; *Independent Research Libraries*; *Archives, Libraries and Museums*; and *Other Organizations*.

American Philosophical Society

104 South 5th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106
215/440-3434
215/440-3436 (fax)
www.amphilsoc.org

Founded in 1743 by Benjamin Franklin, the American Philosophical Society promotes knowledge in the sciences and humanities through excellence in scholarly research, professional meetings, publications, library resources, and community outreach. The APS offers several research grants in the humanities and social sciences, especially geared towards young scholars: *Franklin Research Grants* (for research leading to publication in all areas of knowledge); the *Phillips Fund Grants for Native American Research*; *Sabbatical Fellowships in the Humanities and Social Sciences* (for mid-career

faculty of universities and 4-year colleges in the United States who have been granted a sabbatical/research year, but for whom financial support from the parent institution is available for only part of the year); *Library Resident Research Fellowships* (support research in the Society's collections; and the *Jacques Barzun Prize in American or European Cultural History*.

Council for the International Exchange of Scholars

3007 Tilden Street NW, Suite 5L
 Washington DC 20008-3009
 202/686-4000
 202/362-3442 (fax)
www.cies.org

The Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES) helps administer the Fulbright Scholar Program, on behalf of the United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. CIES is a private organization, and is a division of the Institute of International Education (see below). CIES annually recruits and sends nearly 800 U.S. faculty and professionals to 140 countries on its traditional program and brings 800 foreign faculty and professionals to the U.S. The organization has also recently launched three new pilot Fulbright programs: the New Century Scholars Program (brings together 30 leading academics and professionals from around the world to examine a major transnational theme and work collaboratively on an issue of global significance); the Senior Specialists Program (offers short-term grants to go abroad to conduct teacher training, develop or assess curricula or educational materials, and so forth); the Alumni Initiatives Awards Program (provides grants to former Fulbrighters to foster greater institutional impact through projects that connect home and host institutions). In addition to describing its funding programs, the CIES website contains information about the countries where it funds research, its campus representatives, program alumni, and news events.

Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy

Contact: Mary E. Curtis, Vice Chairman and Secretary
 P.O. Box 7
 Rocky Hill, NJ 08553-0007
www.horowitz-foundation.org

The Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy was established in 1998 as a not-for-profit organization to support the advancement of research and understanding in the major fields of the social sciences, specifically, in the fields of psychology, anthropology, sociology, economics, urban affairs, area studies, political science and other disciplines. The Foundation provides direct assistance to individual scholars who require small grants to further their research with emphasis on policy-oriented studies. Preference

will be given to projects that deal with contemporary issues in the social sciences and issues of policy relevance, and to scholars in the initial stages of work. Applicants are not required to be U.S. citizens or residents. Candidates may propose new projects and they may also solicit support for research in progress, travel funds, or preparing a work for publication.

The Huntington Library

1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, CA 91108
626/405-2100
www.huntington.org

The Huntington Library is an independent research center with holdings in British and American history, literature, art history, and the history of science and medicine. Within the general fields listed above there are many areas of special strength, including: Middle Ages, Renaissance, nineteenth- and twentieth-century literature, history of science, British drama, Colonial America, American Civil War, Western America, Women's Studies and California. In addition to information about its events, exhibits and publications, the Huntington website contains information about its fellowships under its *Research and Education* section. These residential fellowships are both short and long term in duration, are based on scholarship relating to the Huntington collection, and include: *Huntington Fellowships* (dissertation or for recent Ph.D.'s; on a variety of specialized topics); *W.M. Keck Foundation Fellowships for Young Scholars* (for non-tenured faculty or doctoral candidates at dissertation stage); *Huntington-British Academy Fellowships for Study in Great Britain* (for those with Ph.D. or equivalent); *Barbara Thom Postdoctoral Fellowships* (non-tenured faculty); *Mellon Postdoctoral Research Fellowships* (Ph.D. or equivalent); *National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships* (Ph.D. or equivalent); and the *Frederick Burkhardt Residential Fellowships for Recently Tenured Scholars* (through ACLS; the Huntington is one of several residential sites).

Institute of International Education (IIE)

1400 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005-7835
202/898-0600
212/326-7835 (fax)
www.iie.org

An independent, nonprofit organization, the Institute of International Education is a resource for educators and institutions worldwide. Its goals are, among others, to promote closer educational relations between the people of the United States and other countries and to increase the number of students, scholars and professionals who have

the opportunity to study, teach and conduct research outside of their own country. The IIE administers the Fulbright Program; provides training and, leadership development programs for public and private sector professionals around the world; organizes democracy-building, civil society and human rights training initiatives in transitional societies; and develops a variety of international projects and initiatives. IIE offers a variety of funding opportunities for students, scholars, educators, professionals and partners in *Education Related Activities*, *Development and Training Activities*, and *Exchange Related Activities*. Its website includes a *Complete Alphabetized Program Activities List*, which has live links to an extensive array of international programs. The IIE website also offers information about its *Global Development* programs (Capacity Building, Partnership, and Professional Development and Exchange), its *Research/Publications*, *News/Announcements* of related interest, as well as job postings at the IIE. Because the IIE has offices all over the U.S. and the world, the *Program Search* function of its website is the best way to learn about individual programs.

The International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX)

2121 K Street NW, Suite 700

Washington, DC 20037

202/628-8188

202/628-8189 (fax)

www.irex.org

IREX (the International Research & Exchanges Board) is a U.S. nonprofit organization specializing in higher education, independent media, Internet development, and civil society programs in the United States, Europe, Eurasia, the Near East, and Asia. The IREX mission is to: foster democracy in transitioning societies; strengthen and help internationalize educational, nongovernmental, and media organizations; support the highest-quality research in the social sciences and humanities; identify and train the next generation of leaders by working together with universities, nongovernmental organizations, foundations, governments, and corporations. IREX designs and implements a broad portfolio of programs in its four core areas--higher education, independent media, Internet development, and civil society. IREX support takes a variety of forms, including: *Research Support*, *Study Abroad Opportunities*; *Professional Training & Leadership Development*; *Educational Advising*; *Institutional Development*; and *Policy Forums* (in *Higher Education*). Its *Civil Society* programs include *Community Connections*; *International Partnership Projects*; *NGO Capacity Building*; *Child Welfare*; and *Empowerment of Women*. The IREX website describes these programs, and offers information about its *Publications* and news on related topics.

Jacob K. Javits Fellowship Program

Higher Education Programs, U.S. Department of Education

1990 K Street, NW, 6th Floor

Washington, DC 20006-8521
 202/502-7700
www.ed.gov/OPE/HEP/iegps/javits.html

The program provides financial assistance to students who have demonstrated: (1) superior academic ability and achievement; (2) exceptional promise; and (3) financial need to undertake graduate study leading to a doctoral degree or a master's degree in which the master's degree is the terminal (highest) degree in the selected field of study. The Department of Education awards fellowships in selected fields of study in the arts, humanities and social sciences (including Folklore/Folklife and Ethnic and Cultural Studies, among other related fields). Fellowships can be offered to individuals who at the time of application have not yet completed their first full year of a doctoral or master's degree program (whichever is the terminal degree for the field of study) or are entering graduate school for the first time in the next academic year.

National Science Foundation

4201 Wilson Boulevard
 Arlington, VA 22230
 703/292-5111
 800/877-8339 (toll-free)
 703/292-5090 (TDD)
www.nsf.gov

See especially: *The Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences (BCS)*, which supports research to develop and advance scientific knowledge focusing on human cognition, language, social behavior and culture, as well as research on the interactions between human societies and the physical environment. Also, see *The Division of Social and Economic Sciences (SES)*, which supports research to develop and advance scientific knowledge focusing on economic, legal, political and social systems, organizations and institutions. All programs in SES and BCS consider proposals for research projects, conferences, and workshops. Some programs also consider proposals for doctoral dissertation improvement assistance, the acquisition of specialized research and computing equipment, group international travel, and large-scale data collection. SES participates in special initiatives and competitions on a number of topics, including human dimensions of global change, and infrastructure to improve data resources, data archives, collaboratories, and centers.

The Social Science Research Council (SSRC)

810 Seventh Avenue
 New York, NY 10019
 212/377-2700
 212/377-2727 (fax)

www.ssrc.org

The Social Science Research Council is an independent, nongovernmental, not-for-profit international organization that seeks to advance social science throughout the world and supports research, education and scholarly exchange on every continent. The SSRC is committed to international, interdisciplinary social science that focuses on themes of public importance. It sponsors fellowship and grant programs on a wide range of topics, and across many different stages of professional development. Most support goes to pre-dissertation, dissertation, and postdoctoral fellowships, offered through annual competitions. See the *Fellowships* section of the SSRC website. The website is also host to information about the SSRC's *Programs* and *Publications*, *SSRC Initiatives*, and *Links to International Social Science*.

The Wenner-Gren Foundation

220 Fifth Avenue, 16th Floor
New York, NY 10001-7708
212/683-5000
212/683-9151 (fax)
www.wennergren.org

The Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, Incorporated, is a private operating foundation that supports basic research in all branches of anthropology. Created and endowed in 1941, the foundation's mission is to advance significant and innovative research about humanity's cultural and biological origins, development, and variation, and to foster the creation of an international community of research scholars in anthropology. See the Wenner-Gren website's *Programs* section for information about its *Dissertation Fieldwork Grants*, *Post-PhD Grants*, and *Richard Carley Hunt Postdoctoral Fellowships*, *Conference Grants Program*, *International Symposium Program*, *Professional Development International Fellowships*, *Historical Archives Grants*, and *International Collaborative Research Grants*. Request program information and application forms at: www.wennergren.org. The Wenner-Gren website includes a *Resources* section that has live links to other funders in related fields. Wenner-Gren publishes *Current Anthropology*, a prominent anthropological journal.

Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars--Fellowships

The Woodrow Wilson Center

One Woodrow Wilson Plaza
1300 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20004-3027
202/691-4001
www.apa.org/ed/wwf.html

Through its residential fellowship program, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars offers approximately 20 fellowships annually in an international competition to individuals with outstanding project proposals in a broad range of the social sciences and humanities on national and/or international issues. Projects should have relevance to the world of public policy, and Fellows should be prepared to interact with policymakers in Washington and with the Wilson Center staff working on similar issues. Men and women from any country with outstanding capabilities and experience from a wide variety of backgrounds (including government, the corporate world, and the professions, as well as academia) are eligible for appointment. The Center's website contains a live link to its *Fellowships Office*.

Additional Resources for Identifying Sources of Support for Scholarship

Published Sources:

Annual Register of Grant Support. New Providence, NJ: R.R. Bowker, 1969-.

Directory of Grants in the Humanities. Phoenix: Oryx Press, 1986-.

Directory of Research Grants. Phoenix: Oryx Press, 1975-.

Grants, Fellowships & Prizes of Interest to Historians. Washington, DC: American Historical Association Institutional Services Program, 1987.

The Grants Register. Chicago: St. James Press, 1969-.

Peterson's Grants for Graduate & Postdoctoral Study. Princeton, NJ: Peterson's Guides, Inc., 1995.

Cantrell, Karen, and Denise Wallen (eds.) *Funding for Anthropological Research.* Phoenix: Oryx Press, 1986.

Coleman, William E. *Grants in the Humanities: A Scholar's Guide to Funding Sources.* New York: Neal-Schuman Publishers, 1980.

Quarles, Susan (ed.). *Guide to Federal Funding for Social Scientists.* New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 1986.

Schlachter, Gail A., and R. David Weber (eds.). *Money for Graduate Students in the Humanities.* San Carlos, CA: Reference Service Press, 1996.

----- . *Money for Graduate Students in the Social & Behavioral Sciences.* El Dorado Hills, CA: Reference Service Press, 2001.

Web-based Sources:

GSN, University of Chicago
www.grad-affairs.uchicago.edu/GSN/gsn699.html

Graduate Fellowships Newsletter
www.grad.nd.edu/gfn

Alternative Funding Sources
www.ltsc.ucsb.edu/urca/research/fundingdirectories.html

Career Resources

Below you will find references to some of the places academic folklorists typically look for employment.

The Chronicle of Higher Education

The Chronicle, also available in print as a weekly journal, includes articles and essays about higher education, as well as job and funding announcements. See especially www.chronicle.com/jobs for job listings.

Folkline

www.afsnet.org/announcements/index.cfm

Folkline is a joint project of the American Folklore Society and the American Folklife Center. It includes updated postings of jobs and other professional opportunities.

Modern Language Association

26 Broadway, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10004-1789
646/576-5000
646/458-0030 (fax)
www.mla.org

Founded in 1883, the Modern Language Association of America provides opportunities for its members to share their scholarly findings and teaching experiences with colleagues and to discuss trends in the academy. MLA members host an annual convention and other meetings, work with related organizations, and sustain one of the finest publishing programs in the humanities. For over a hundred years, members have worked to strengthen the study and teaching of language and literature. On the MLA website, you will find information about the organization's *Annual Convention*, *Publications* (which include two journals), and *Professional Resources*, which includes information about *MLA Reports and Documents*, *Prizes and Awards*, *Related Professional Organizations* (an extensive list of humanities organizations), and the *MLA Job Information List*, which is accessible to MLA members.

Scholarly Organizations Serving Allied Fields

With its interdisciplinary focus, folklore enjoys kinship with other scholarly fields, and folklorists may find both funding and employment opportunities by becoming members

of scholarly organizations that serve a particular area of interest. Many of these organizations host annual meetings, publish scholarly journals and newsletters, sponsor special events, and provide a variety of resources for their members, including websites that list job postings in their respective areas. Below you will find some of the most prominent scholarly organizations serving folklore's allied fields. For basic information about all 67 of the American Council of Learned Societies' member societies, as well as links to their individual web sites, go to www.acsls.org.

American Anthropological Association (AAA) – www.aaanet.org

American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) – www.acla.org

American Ethnological Society (AES) – www.aaanet.org/aes

American Historical Association (AHA) – www.theaha.org

American Society for Ethnohistory (ASH) – www.ethnohistory.org

American Studies Association (ASA) –
www.georgetown.edu/crossroads/asainfo.html

College Art Association (CAA) – www.collegeart.org

Organization of American Historians (OAH) – www.oah.org

Oral History Association (OHA) – www.omega.dickinson.edu/organizations/oha

Society for Applied Anthropology (SFAA) – www.sfaa.net

Society for Ethnomusicology (SEM) – www.indiana.edu/~ethmusic

PUBLIC AND APPLIED FOLKLORE

Acquiring training in public folklore presents something of a catch-22 situation, as the only way to gain experience is to begin working as a public sector folklorist. Increasingly, however, folklore and folklife degree programs are offering their students opportunities to learn about public folklore.

One great way to gain experience in is through time-limited, project-driven contracts of varying duration. Situated throughout the country, these short-term positions may lead to more permanent employment. Some folklorists have launched their careers by volunteering for an organization of their choice, and then eventually have been hired on as part- or full-time employees. Probably the best place to receive updates about job listings in public folklore is the listserv, **Publore**, as well as **Folkline**, located under **Opportunities in Folklore** on AFSNet.org (both listed above). Also, many of the folklore and folklife graduate programs have listservs for their students and alumni, and these provide updated job postings in both academic and public folklore. A good place to become acquainted with the work that public sector folklorists are doing around the country is the **Public Programs Bulletin** published by the American Folklore Society. This newsletter includes state-by-state updates by folklorists on the work they are doing in their communities.

If you are seeking work in a particular state or region, you will find helpful links on the websites of the **National Folklore and Folklife Organizations** listed above. See especially the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress, the American Folklore Society, the Fund for Folk Culture, and the National Council for Traditional Arts and TAPNET. The National Endowment for the Arts (listed below) also contains lists of *State, Regional, and Jurisdictional Arts Agencies*. The regional arts agencies serve as umbrella organizations for their areas and function in a variety of ways. Some serve as networks for folklorists and other arts professionals, coordinating funding and networking for folklorists and their work. In some regions, there are annual retreats attended by public/applied and independent folklorists. These gatherings can be an excellent way to meet colleagues and to learn about the work that is being done in a given region.

Almost every state has its public folk and traditional arts program, and these are located in a variety of different settings. The **National Folklore and Folklife Organizations** listed above have links for these programs. Public folk and traditional arts programs vary in the ways they serve their communities. Apprenticeship programs are the most common denominator, but beyond that public folklorists develop diverse programming such as exhibits, festivals, performances, arts residencies and more, depending on their host communities. In addition to the regional and state organizations around the country, there are a handful of regional folklore and folklife centers and archives across the country that offer opportunities for research in their collections, and where staff have expertise in the folklore and folklife of a particular

region. Some of these centers hold regular events, such as festivals, gatherings, workshops and performances. Many pursue ongoing documentary work in their regions. Here again, the **National Folklore and Folklife Organizations** listed above are the best resource for locating these centers.

Funding Resources

(See also **Service Organizations in Allied Fields, below**)

Most projects undertaken by public/applied and independent folklorists are funded by national, state and regional arts agencies. The National Endowment for the Arts is by far the most prominent funder of traditional arts projects across the country. There are also any number of private foundations that fund folk arts and folklife projects, and these will vary from region to region. Funders have specialized interests and eligibility criteria, so you will need to research which funders are providing funding for what kind of projects in your neighborhood. Folklorists have also been successful in finding funding at the corporate level. Folklorists doing applied work are advised to look for support in the particular professional, cultural or occupational realm in which they are working. For example, there might be social service, health, or education money available where there is collaboration with these fields. Cultural organizations or ethnically owned businesses might also contribute to a project serving their communities.

Arts International, Inc.

251 Park Avenue South, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10010-7302
212/674-9744
212/674-9092 (fax)
www.artsinternational.org

Arts International is an independent, not-for-profit contemporary arts organization dedicated to the development and support of global cultural interchange in the arts and to educating audiences and the public about the richness and diversity of the arts worldwide. Arts International carries out its work through global projects and partnerships, new media ventures and publications, and regranting and advised fund opportunities for artists and arts organizations working internationally. AI's regranting programs include *The Artists Exploration Fund*, which enables individual performing artists to pursue opportunities abroad that further their artistic development and *The Arts International/Arts Presenters Exploration Fund*, which provides international travel support to not-for-profit presenters, not-for-profit managers, and managers with a not-for-profit affiliation. *The Fund for U.S. Artists* provides support for U.S. artists invited to participate in major international performing arts festivals and recurring visual arts exhibitions. AI's funding opportunities are open to traditional artists and arts programs. Their *New Technology and Media* program includes: video and audio services; a database including international listings of festivals, contacts, presenters, artists and related resources; and a Bulletin Board. AI publishes reports, a magazine and a journal, which you can access online.

Council on Foundations

1828 L Street NW
 Washington, DC 20636
 202/466-6512
 202/785-3926 (fax)
www.cof.org

The Council on Foundations is a membership organization of more than 2,000 grantmaking foundations and giving programs worldwide. The COF provides leadership expertise, legal services and networking opportunities—among other services—to its members and to the general public. The COF website's *Services & Programs* section includes an array of resources that cover many aspects of funding, including *Looking for Grants*. In this section, you will find listings of *Libraries*, *Grant Information Collections*, *State & Federal Government Resources*, *Scholarships* and *Grant Research & Writing Resources*. Its *Career Center*, open to members, offers job listings, as well as information about looking for work in philanthropy. The website also provides information about its annual meeting, as well as other conferences of related interest throughout the calendar year. Under its *Networking* section, the COF website offers an invaluable resource, the *Affinity Group Network*, which lists funders by location and funding area. This is a wonderful way to narrow your search and to zero in on the funding organizations that are most likely to support your work.

The Foundation Center

79 Fifth Avenue
 New York, NY 10003
 212/620-4230
www.fdncenter.org

The Foundation Center supports and improves philanthropy by promoting public understanding of the field and helping grant seekers succeed. The Center collects, organizes, and communicates information on U.S. philanthropy; conducts and facilitates research on trends in the field; provides education and training on the grant seeking process; ensures public access to information and services through its web site, print and electronic publications, five library/learning centers, and a national network of Cooperating Collections. The Center is dedicated to serving grant seekers, grant makers, researchers, policymakers, the media, and the general public, and provides free information on all of these aspects of grantmaking. The website also includes a Job Center, a state-by-state list of job postings in philanthropy.

The J. Paul Getty Trust

The Getty Center
 1200 Getty Center Drive

Los Angeles, CA 90049-1679
 310/440-7300
www.getty.edu

The J. Paul Getty Trust is an international cultural and philanthropic organization serving both general audiences and specialized professionals. The Trust encompasses the *J. Paul Getty Museum, Research Institute, Conservation Institute, Grant Program, and Leadership Institute*. The Research Institute provides a range of research resources, including its Grants Program, offering a variety of residential and nonresidential grants for university and museum scholars, teams of scholars, and conservation professionals. The Conservation Institute works internationally to advance conservation in the visual arts, through scientific research and training, model field projects, and the dissemination of information. The *Conservation Guest Scholar* program provides opportunities for professionals to pursue independent research in areas of general interest to the international conservation community. In addition to its support in the areas of Research and Conservation, the Trust supports *Education and Professional Development Grants* through awards in *Museum Interpretation, Professional Organizations, and Internships*. Finally, the *Leadership Institute* offers professional development opportunities to strengthen museums as well as individuals by convening museum professionals, board members, scholars, and philanthropists to address and sometimes reframe significant issues.

National Endowment for the Arts

1100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
 Washington, DC 20506
 202/682-5400
www.arts.gov

The National Endowment for the Arts was created by Congress and established in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government. The NEA provides national recognition and support to significant projects of artistic excellence, thus preserving and enhancing our nation's diverse cultural heritage. In addition to listing its funding opportunities and providing downloadable forms, the NEA website includes information about *Cultural Tourism, Partnerships, International Exchanges, Learning in the Arts* (arts education), *Publications, Research*, the *NEA Library*, as well as listings and links for *State, Regional and Jurisdictional Arts Agencies*, and regularly updated information and news about the NEA and the arts. You can access the NEA's Folk & Traditional Arts program through *Art Forms*, on the NEA Home Page. Grants are available to non-profit organizations working in the traditional arts through the following funding categories: *Access, Challenge America: Access to the Arts, Creativity, Folk and Traditional Arts Infrastructure Initiative, and Heritage and Preservation*. The Folk & Traditional Arts section of the NEA website contains a wealth of information about traditional arts resources including: *Folk & Traditional Arts Features, Folk & Traditional Arts Resource*

Center (Funding, Health, Folk & Traditional Arts Links, Service Organizations, Publications and Periodicals), and *Public Folk Cultural Programs*. This section also includes contact information for Folk & Traditional Arts staff, a listing of past and upcoming grant awards, and downloadable application forms and instructions.

National Endowment for the Humanities

1100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
 Washington, DC 20506
 202/606-8400
 800-NEH-1121 (toll-free)
 866/372-2930 (TDD)
 202-606-8282 (fax)
www.neh.fed.us

The National Endowment for the Humanities is an independent grant-making agency of the United States government dedicated to supporting research, education, preservation, and public programs in the humanities. In addition to its special initiatives, the NEH provides grants for high-quality humanities projects in four funding areas: preserving and providing access to cultural resources, education, research, and public programs. NEH grants typically go to cultural institutions, such as museums, archives, libraries, colleges, universities, public television, and radio stations, and to individual scholars. The grants: strengthen teaching and learning in the humanities in schools and colleges across the nation; facilitate research and original scholarship; provide opportunities for lifelong learning; preserve and provide access to cultural and educational resources; strengthen the institutional base of the humanities. NEH funding categories include: *Challenge Grants; Education Programs; Preservation and Access; Public Programs; and Research Programs*. To learn more about NEH programs and funding opportunities, and to download application forms and instructions, visit the NEH website, which also contains information about its *Projects* and *Publications*.

The Rockefeller Foundation

420 Fifth Avenue
 New York, NY 10018
 212/869-8500
www.rockfound.org

The Rockefeller Foundation is a knowledge-based global foundation with a commitment to enrich and sustain the lives and livelihoods of poor and excluded people throughout the world. In order to maximize its resources and leverage the Foundation's strengths, grantmaking is organized around four thematic lines of work: Creativity & Culture, Food Security, Health Equity and Working Communities. A cross-theme of Global Inclusion supports, promotes and supplements the work of these themes. Of special interest to

folklorists is the *Creativity and Culture* program. Through this program, the Foundation supports the recovery and reinvention of cultures through such vehicles as museum exhibitions, preservation of traditional art forms, cultural-heritage and folk-life projects, and community-arts projects, as well as efforts to promote cultural policy and to understand the cultural components of well-being. See the Foundation's website for application details, as well as information about Foundation publications, updated news and special projects, and job openings at the Foundation.

The Trust for Mutual Understanding

30 Rockefeller Plaza, Room 5600
 New York, New York 10112
 212/632-3405
 212/632-3409 (fax)
www.tmuny.org

The Trust for Mutual Understanding is a private, grant-making organization dedicated to promoting improved communication, closer cooperation, and greater respect between the people of the United States, the Soviet Union, and other countries in Eastern and Central Europe. The Trust makes grants to American nonprofit organizations conducting international cultural and environmental exchanges in partnership with institutions and individuals in Russia and Eastern and Central Europe. Priority consideration is given to projects in which direct, professional interaction plays a major role. The majority of funds are organizational grants, awarded for international travel and per diem expenses associated with exchanges in the visual and performing arts. The TMU commonly funds advanced training programs, workshops, conferences, seminars, joint research projects, and exchanges intended to aid organizations in the region seeking to achieve greater institutional stability. In addition, the Trust assists international travel associated with creative artistic collaborations, curatorial research projects, performances given in conjunction with lecture/demonstrations, and/or workshops, conservation and historic preservation projects, arts management programs, and cultural documentation activities. Further application information is available on the Trust's website.

Career Resources

(See also other listings under **Funding and Service Organizations in Allied Fields**)

For those interested in working in museum settings, these two listings offer a wealth of information about job listings, as well as professional development opportunities. Please refer to the **National Folklore and Folklife Organizations** section for more generalized information about career opportunities in public/applied and independent folklore.

American Association of Museums

1575 Eye Street NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20005
202/289-1818
www.aam-us.org

The American Association of Museums is dedicated to promoting excellence within the museum community. Through advocacy, professional education, information exchange, accreditation, and guidance on current professional standards of performance, AAM assists museum staff, boards, and volunteers across the country to better serve the public. Individual members span the range of occupations in museums, including directors, curators, registrars, educators, exhibit designers, public relations officers, development officers, security managers, trustees, and volunteers. The AAM website contains a wealth of information, including listings of its *Programs*, *Professional Education*, *Initiatives*, *Resources*, and more. In its *Resources* section, you will find a *Reference Library*, *Websites of Interest* (extensive), *Publications*, *Bookstore*, *MMO* (Museum Marketplace Online), and *AVISO Classifieds*, which contains job postings for both members and non-members.

Museum Resource Board

www.museumwork.com

The Museum Resource Board is an online service that contains the following: *Museum Yellow Pages* (contact information for nearly 7,500 museums throughout the United States); *Job Database* (database of current museum-related job postings); *Internship Database*; *Resume Database*; *Conferences*; *Museum Education and Training Programs* (with listings of universities, colleges, or other institutions that offer museum related training courses); and *Related Web Sites*.

Additional Service Organizations

You will find the most complete listing of arts agencies and service organizations in the **National Folklore and Folklife Resources**. Below are several organizations, both national and international in focus, that offer opportunities to learn about public arts and heritage at the level of policy. In addition to their research focus, these organizations also offer funding, employment and internship opportunities.

American Association for State and Local History

1717 Church Street,
Nashville, TN 37203-2991
615/320-3203
615/327-9013 (fax)
www.aaslh.org

The American Association for State and Local History provides leadership service, and support for its members, who preserve and interpret state and local history in order to make the past more meaningful in American society. The AASLH's membership, which includes both institutions and individuals, reflects a broad range of demographics in the field, from small, volunteer-run organizations to larger national agencies. For this diverse membership, the AASLH has fashioned a roster of programs and services that are meeting members' needs and progressively advancing the goals and standards of the field. Its website offers a vast array of programs and services for those working in state and local history and related fields, including many *Technical Resources*. In addition to publications, special reports, and video listings (including a lending library), the *Products/Publications* section of the AASLH website features a *Jobs Online* area, where you can search for job postings by area of interest, job title and/or state. Under its *Professional Development* category, the website offers information about the AASLH *Annual Meeting*, *Mentor Program*, and *Workshops Series*.

Center for Arts and Culture

Suite 505
819 Seventh Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3772
202/783-5277
202/783-4498 (fax)
www.culturalpolicy.org

The Center for Arts and Culture is an independent think tank that aims to broaden and deepen the national conversation on culture and cultural policies. The Center's mission is to enlarge the public vision of the centrality of the arts and culture in everyday life. The Center commissions research, holds public roundtables, and publishes new voices

and perspectives on the arts and culture. Through its *Art, Culture & the National Agenda* project, the Center identified seven areas where policies intersect with cultural issues: Law, Globalization, Access, Preservation, Community, Investment and Education. On the Center's website, you can find the latest news, events, and publications on key policy questions in each of these issue areas, as well Center research and information. Through its public listserv the Center provides the latest news on arts and culture as well as a vehicle for the exchange of ideas, research, and information among policy makers and professionals in the cultural community.

National Trust for Historic Preservation

1785 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036-2117
202/588-6000
www.nationaltrust.org

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, chartered by Congress in 1949, is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to protecting irreplaceable historic buildings and the neighborhoods and landscapes they anchor. The National Trust for Historic Preservation provides leadership, education and advocacy to save America's diverse historic places and revitalize our communities. The Trust's website lists *Jobs and Internships*, *RFP Opportunities*, and *Publications*, as well as general and regional information about the Trust's activities. The Trust sponsors numerous projects throughout the U.S., some of which include: The *Statewide and Local Partners Program*, *Center for Preservation Leadership* and *Preservation Leadership Training*, *National Preservation Conference*, *Heritage Tourism*, *Rural Heritage*, *Historic Sites*, *Save America's Treasures*, *Community Partners*, *National Main Street Center* and *Preservation Development Initiatives*.

A WORD ABOUT FOLKLORISTS WORKING IN APPLIED OR ALTERNATIVE PROFESSIONAL SETTINGS

The sources mentioned in this section are predominantly focused on work based in the arts and humanities. It is difficult to list precise resources relating to applied folklore opportunities because, for the most part, the pathways to applied folklore work are somewhat idiosyncratic and serendipitous. However, there are many possibilities out there, and to some extent, your options are limited only by your imagination.

Folklorists have been known to identify a niche that needs to be filled and to create jobs for themselves. Training in folklore/folklife research methods, in cultural relativity and in the communicative potential of traditional artistic expressions can be applied to many professional contexts. One excellent place to explore the possibilities for applied folklore is the Society for Applied Anthropology, listed in **Scholarly Organizations Serving Allied Fields**. They maintain a website, publish several publications, and host an annual meeting where you can learn about many dynamic applied programs and projects. For a time, the journal *Folklore in Use* published articles about applied folklore work. You will find copies of it in the libraries of folklore throughout the country.

There are a number of other graduate degrees that can be combined with folklore training. For example, some folklorists have pursued library science degrees and have developed a specialty as folklore librarians and archivists in professional settings ranging from academic folklore collections to folklife centers or museums. Within that field there are further subspecialties in music/sound, photography and particular cultural areas. Art therapy is another professional area that combines well with a background in folklore. International Studies/Affairs is an area of specialty that has led folklorists to work in a variety of service organizations. Some folklorists have earned MFA degrees and have pursued careers focused on creative writing, drawing upon their background as folklorists. Be aware that folklorists have found work in these areas without acquiring additional training. Depending on your particular situation and the resources available to you, you will know what works best for you.

Some folklorists have found rewarding work providing advocacy in such areas as health care, law, environmental issues, education or the social services. Folklorists have worked in health care settings, collaborating with care providers to help medical personnel better understand the cultural beliefs and practices, in order to provide more culturally sensitive – and thus more effective – health care. Others have consulted as cultural experts in legal contexts, in which land claims, water rights and other environmental issues have an impact on diverse communities. Some folklorists have established a sub-specialty in folk arts in education, developing curricular materials and in-and after-school programs that draw upon traditional arts and culture, or even teaching ethnographic methods to education students, so that they will be better able to serve their multi-cultural students. Folklorists have participated in diversity training in a variety of professional contexts in both public service and government, as well as

the private or corporate sectors. There are a handful of refugee and immigrant arts programs around the country, wherein folklorists have worked with social service agencies and other service providers to facilitate cultural preservation and resettlement among newly arrived cultural communities in the United States. Some academic folklorists have taught folklore classes and/or done oral historical work in such settings as prisons, battered women's shelters, senior centers or at-risk youth facilities, thus providing folklore/ethnographic training and an expressive outlet to these populations, while potentially contributing to mainstream understanding of these communities.

Cultural tourism is an area where folklorists have helped to develop public, community-based programs. They have consulted in cultural interpretation (in national parks, for example), writing brochures, conducting cultural surveys, developing walking and auto tours and more. Some folklorists and ethnomusicologists have developed software-based programs or virtual tours that guide visitors through the cultural and/or musical landscape of a particular region.

Oral history is another field that is rich in possibilities. Folklorists have taught community-based oral history workshops and done commission work for families, organizations and corporations who are interested in documenting their own histories.

Some of the service organizations listed both in the Academic and Public sections include employment opportunities on their websites, and there may be positions of interest to folklorists in these professional contexts. Folklorists have found work as program officers in a variety of funding organizations.

The media is yet another area where folklorists have found work, as well as the opportunity to share their work with a broader audience. Publishing, journalism, radio and television are areas in the media where folklorists have carved a niche for themselves, especially drawing upon folkloristic training in ethnographic field methods and archival research approaches.

There are likely many possibilities as yet untapped by folklorists, awaiting discovery. Perhaps these words, taken from a medieval song, best describe the field of applied folklore: "Traveler, there is no path. The path is made in walking." For the adventurous of spirit, opportunities in applied folklore abound.

ACRONYM CHEAT SHEET

Below you will find some of the more common institutional acronyms that circulate among folklorists.

AAA	American Anthropological Association
AFS	American Folklore Society
APA	American Psychological Association
ACLS	American Council of Learned Societies
CIES	Council for the International Exchange of Scholars
IIE	Institute of International Education
IREX	International Research and Exchanges Board
MLA	Modern Language Association
NCTA	National Council for the Traditional Arts
NEA	National Endowment for the arts
NEH	National Endowment for the Humanities
NSF	National Science Foundation
SEM	Society for Ethnomusicology
SSRC	Social Science Research Council